

## Prime Farmland

The U.S. Department of Agriculture defines prime farmland soils as those soils best suited to producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops. A large majority of the study limits contain soils which are classified as either prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance soils. The majority of prime farmland within the study area is associated with the Red River floodplain. Areas of prime farmland are shown on Exhibit D: Land Use.

Listed Species of Concern and Critical Habitat

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Louisiana Natural Heritage Program (LNHP) were contacted regarding the possible occurrence of threatened and endangered species within the study corridor. By law, special consideration must be given to federally listed species and their associated habitat. The occurrence of these species along the study corridor was investigated to determine if special precautions were warranted in project planning.

Federally listed faunal species which could occur within the study area include the Florida panther, Louisiana black bear, red-cockaded woodpecker, bald eagle, eskimo curlew, Bachman's warbler, and American alligator. No recent sightings of the Florida panther have been reported in Louisiana and it is doubtful that any occur within the area. Based on current records and observations it is doubtful that the red-cockaded woodpecker will be found along the project corridor. Currently, no floral species in the project area are protected under the Endangered Species Act.

The LNHP database includes several species of state-listed plants and animals which are located in close proximity to the corridor study area. Currently, these species are only state listed and are not afforded federal protection. A complete listing of all species of concern is presented in Table 1.

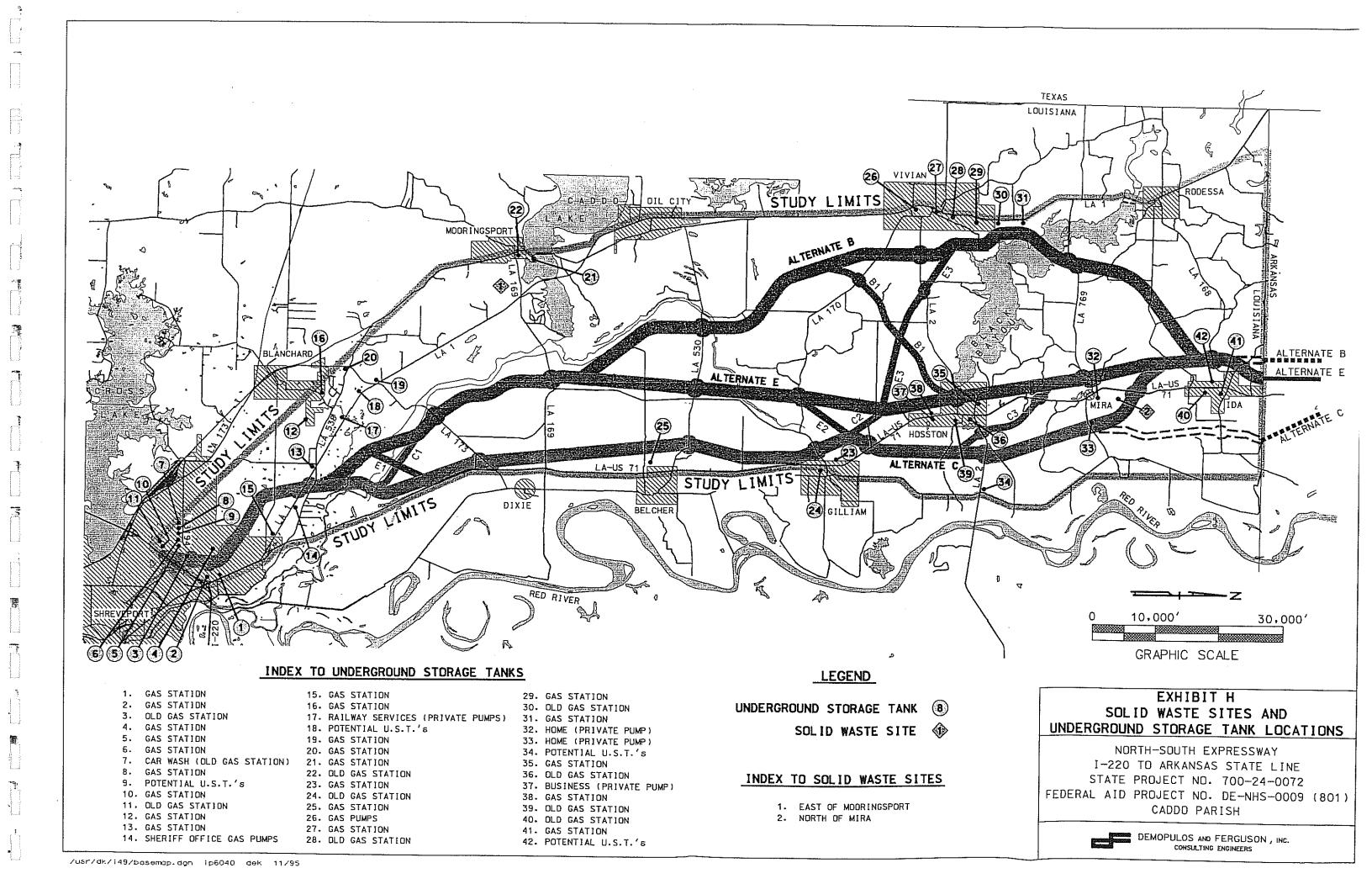


TABLE 1
LISTED SPECIES POTENTIALLY OCCURRING WITHIN
THE NORTH-SOUTH EXPRESSWAY CORRIDOR STUDY AREA.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Designated Status
<u>Mammals</u>		
Florida panther	Felix concolor coryi	E
Louisiana black bear	Ursus americanus luteolus	T
<u>Birds</u>		
Red-cockaded woodpecker	Picoides borealis	E
Eskimo curlew	Numenius borealis	E
Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	E
Bachman's warbler	Vermivora bachmanii	E
<u>Reptiles</u>		
Southern prairie skink	Eumecus septentrionalis	S1
American alligator	Alligator mississippiensis	T
<u>Fish</u>		
Western sand darter	Ammocrypta clara	S2

# TABLE 1 (cont.) LISTED SPECIES POTENTIALLY OCCURRING WITHIN THE NORTH-SOUTH EXPRESSWAY CORRIDOR STUDY AREA.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Designated Status
<u>Plants</u>		
Golden wave tick seed	Coreopsis intermedia	S1
American alumroot	Heuchera americana	
Bur oak	Quercus macrocarpa	<b>S</b> 1
Long-leaved wild buckwheat	Eriogomum longifolium	S2
Louisiana squarehead	Tetragonotheca ludoviciana	S2
Pale umbrella-wort	Mirabilis albida	S1-S2
Smooth twistflower	Streptantus hyacinthoides	S2-S3
Heart-leaved skullcap	Scutellaria cardiophyla	S2-S3
Yellow pimpernel	Taenidia integerrima	- <b>S2</b>
Evening rainlily	Cooperia dummondii	S2
Granite gooseberry	Ribes curvatum	S2
Cirsium terraenigrae	Cirsium engelmannii	<b>S</b> 1
Reflexed trillium	Trillium recurvatum	S2
Starry campion	Silene stellata	S1-S2
	Nemastylis geminiflora	
White trout lily	Erythronium albidum	<b>S</b> 1
Wild hyacinth	Camassia scilloides	<b>S</b> 1

### 3. Social Environment

Data collected relates to those facets of community life and the social fabric of human activities.

### Schools

Public, private and church schools are located within the study area. The Caddo Parish School System has a network of elementary, middle, and high schools throughout the study area. The St. Pius School is the only church school; the Trinity Heights Christian Academy is the only private school located in or very close to the study area.

See Exhibit J for location and names of schools.

### Parks and Recreational Areas

Caddo Parish has five parks and the City of Shreveport has one designated park within the study area. All but the North Shreveport Metro Park; aka Paul Lynch Park, have been developed; schematic plans have been prepared since 1984, but funding is not available for its development. Depending upon funding sources these parks may have 4 (f) or 6 (f) designation and should be avoided.

The Robert L. Nance Park located in Hosston may be impacted by Alternative E; careful location of the roadway and use of a "one-sided" interchange on the south side of La 2 may mitigate any impact upon access to this park.

The lands currently designated for the North Shreveport Metro Park is located in the vicinity of the proposed interchange of I-220 and the Expressway. Planned access to the park is limited by way of a roadway or pathway under an existing bridge structure on Martin Luther King Drive. Careful attention to interchange design can either avoid encroachment or have minimum impact upon future development of this park.

See Exhibit K for park locations.

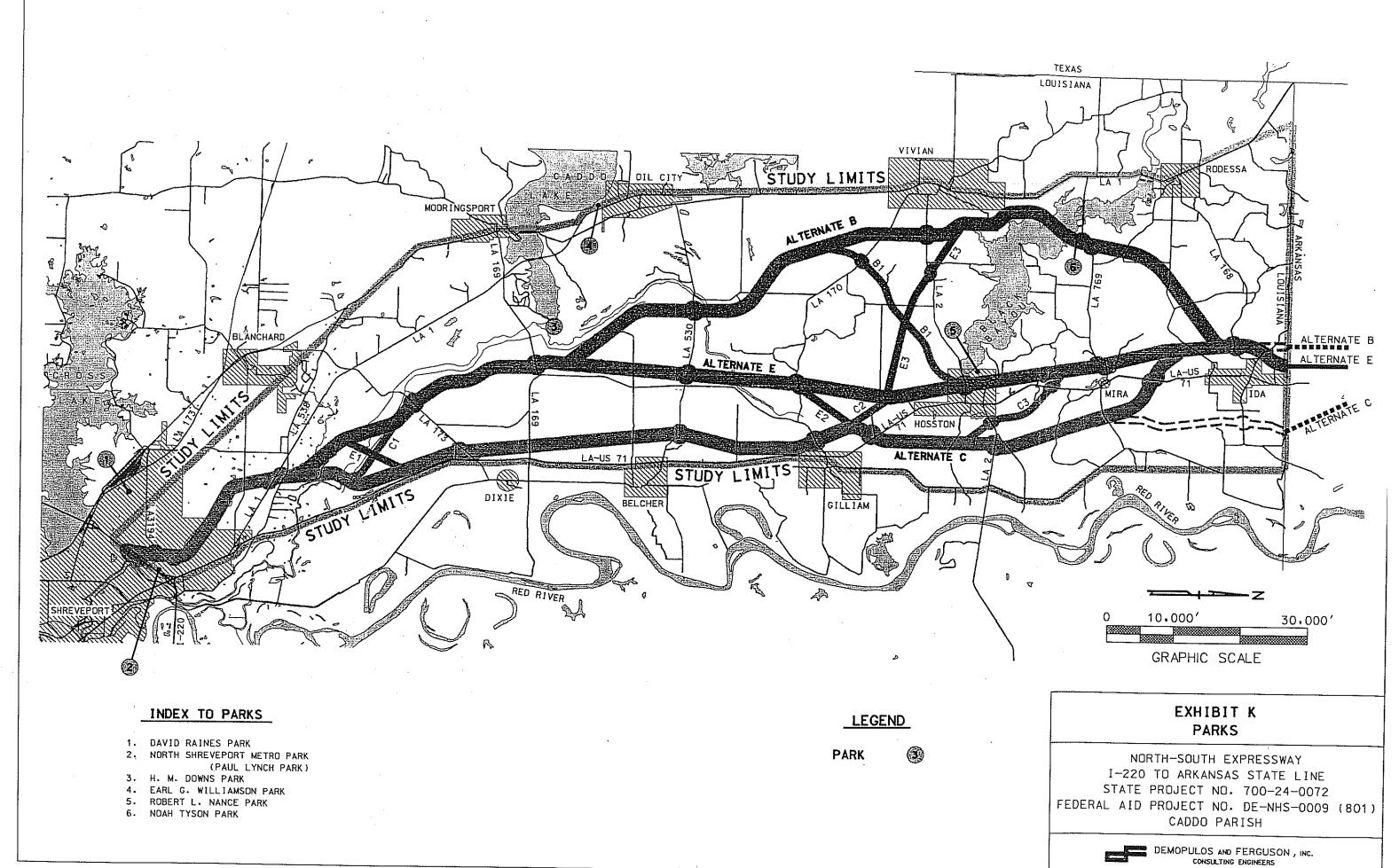
### Churches

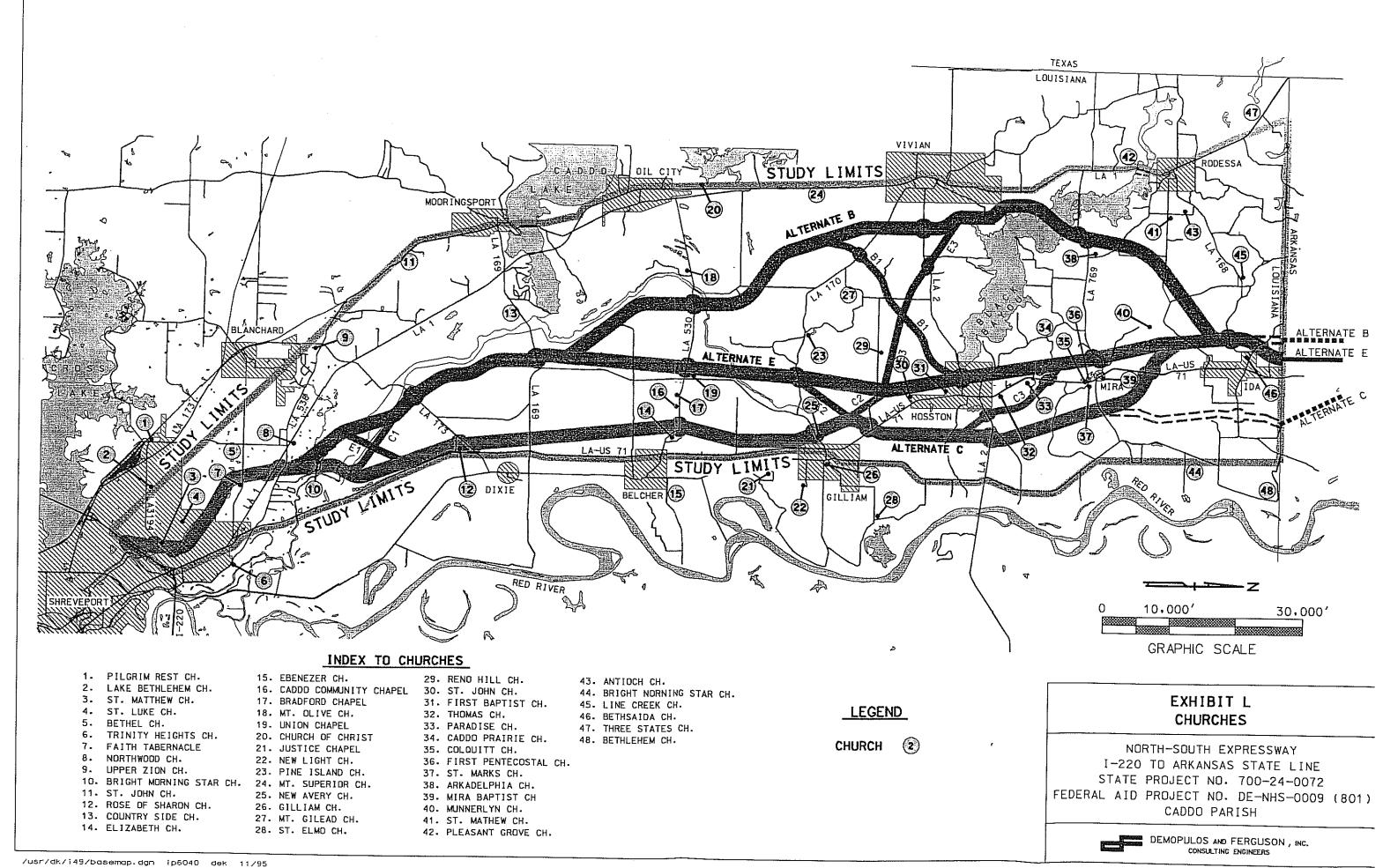
Churches have been identified though use of quadrangle maps, church directories, and visual observation; See Exhibit L.

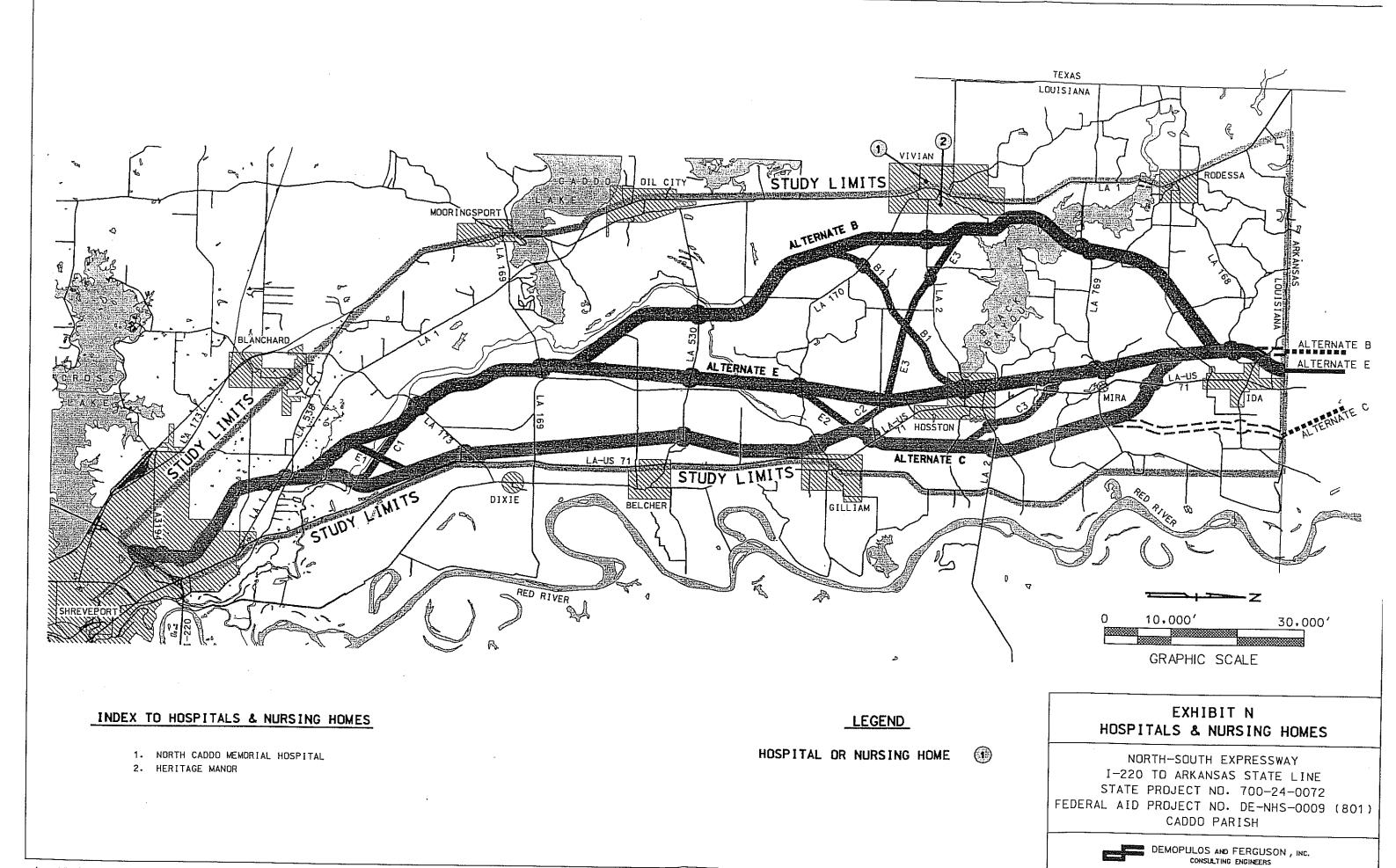
LOUISIANA (18) VIVIAN STUDY LIMITS ALTERNATE B ALTERNATE E ALTERNATE E ALTERNATE C STUDY LIMITS GILLIAM 10,0004 30,000 GRAPHIC SCALE EXHIBIT J LEGEND SCHOOLS SCHOOL NORTH-SOUTH EXPRESSWAY I-220 TO ARKANSAS STATE LINE STATE PROJECT NO. 700-24-0072 FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. DE-NHS-0009 (801) CADDO PARISH DEMOPULOS AND FERGUSON, INC. CONSULTING ENGINEERS

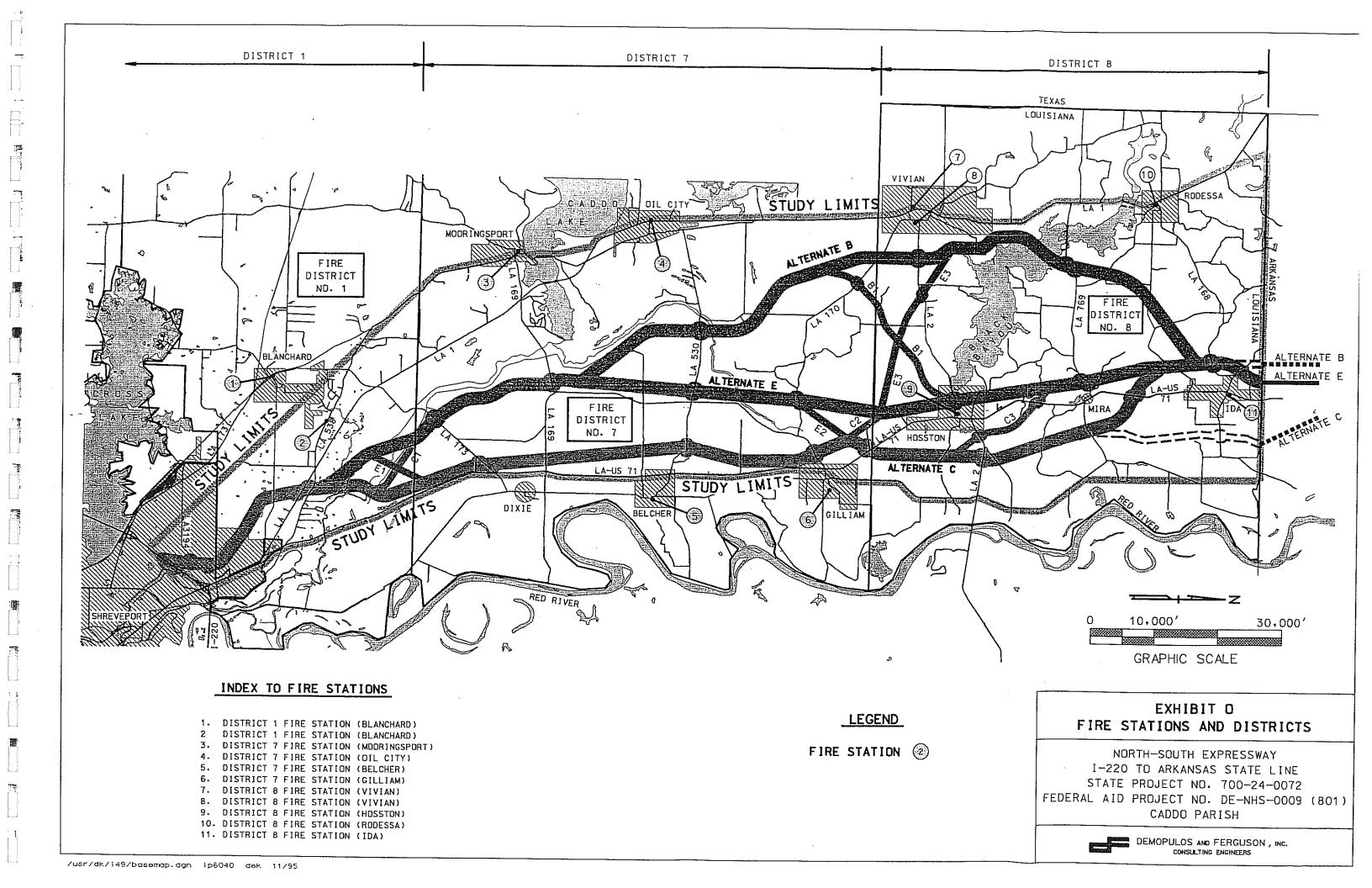
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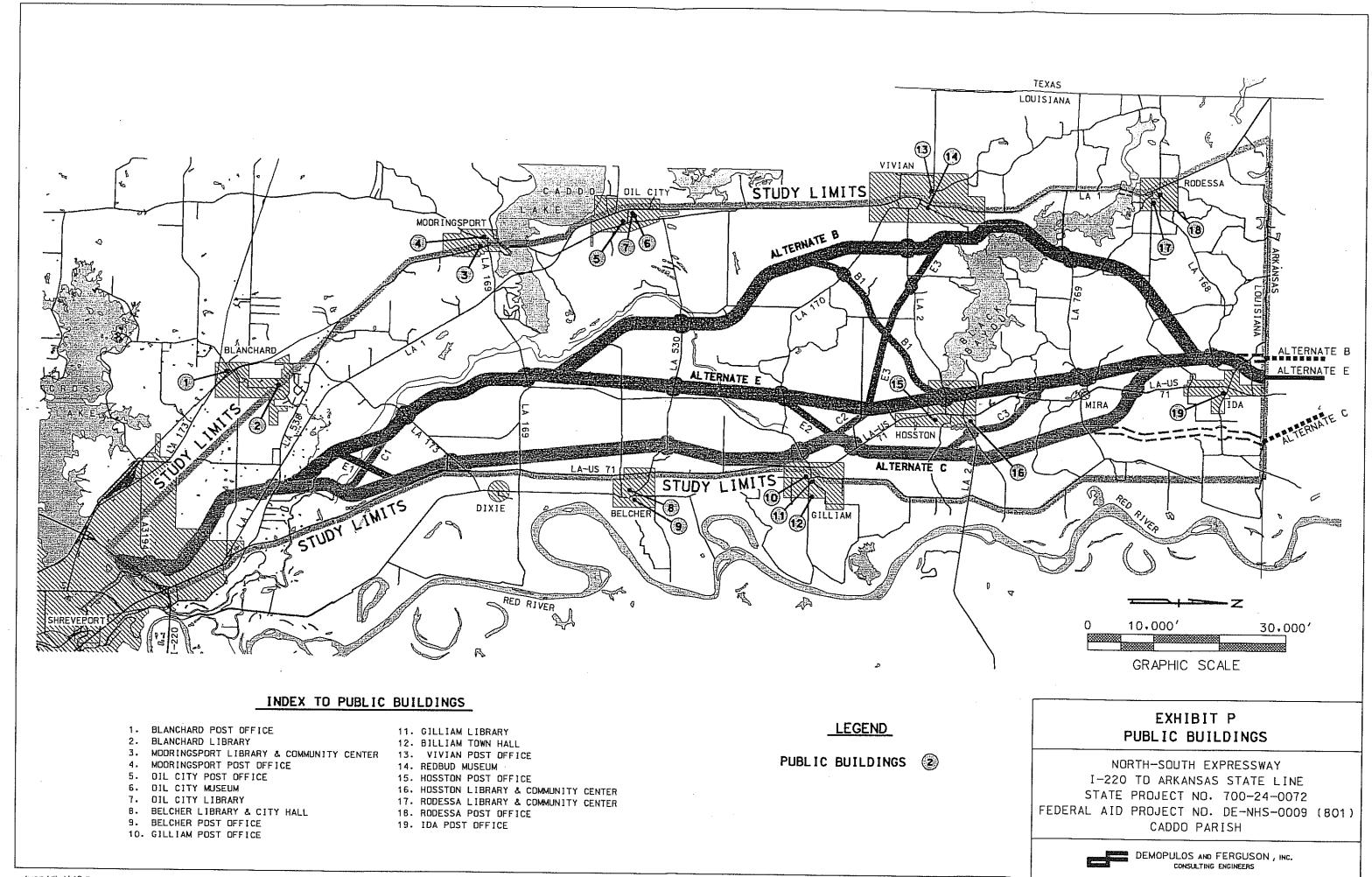
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The economic base of the study area in the past has been primarily tied to farming, timber production, oil and gas production, Barksdale Air Force Base located in Bossier City, and the Louisiana Ordinance Plant located between Shreveport and Minden. Lone Star Ordinance Plant in Karnack, Texas and Red River Ordinance Plant near Texarkana, Texas, also provided employment opportunities for residents in the corridor study area. In the past thirty years the Shreveport-Bossier Metorpolitan Statistical Area economic base has become more diversified with location of and addition to existing major facilities of General Motors Assembly Plant; AT&T Manufacturing Plant; General Electric; GNB's Battery Plant, Process Division of UOP Inc., Boots Pharmaceuticals Inc.; Beaird Industries, The Frymaster Corporation, Libbey Glass, Rockwell International, Poulan/Weed Eater and petroleum processing plants. In addition, many other small and medium size manufacturing plants, warehouse and distribution facilities have been established and/or expanded which contribute to the diversity of employment opportunities.

A number of studies have been conducted relating to infrastructure improvements which translate into economic improvement and employment opportunities for the corridor study area. Two studies of significant impact are:

Master Plan for Marine Terminal Facilities and Industrial Development for Caddo/Bossier Port Commission, April 1976, prepared by Tippets-Abbett-McCartney-Stratton (TAMS), New York, identifies the Tributary Area or the area which would contribute to the use of the proposed port. The tributary area extends north and east of Texarkana to include Miller, Little River, Lafayette, Sevier, Hemstead, and Columbia counties.

These counties would utilize the proposed Expressway north from Shreveport to Texarkana to ship products through the Caddo/Bossier Port to major gulf coast seaports.

• The Kansas City, Missouri to Shreveport, Louisiana Highway Feasibility Corridor Study prepared in response to Section 166 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1987, dated April 1988, notes economic benefits of the highway from Kansas City to Shreveport as follows:

The highway would benefit the entire central states of Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska along with sections of Canada by providing a continuous North-South route for the movement of grains and manufactured goods to southern market areas and the Gulf of

Mexico ports for international trade shipments and a direct connection to the international port of New Orleans. The highway would support industrial development and economic growth along the highway corridor.

# Recent significant events include:

- The Intermodel Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, ISTEA, is structured to encourage and promote development of a national intermodel transportation system in the United States, to move people and goods in an energy-efficient manner and provide the foundation for improved productivity and growth. The highway between Shreveport and Kansas City and the Caddo/Bossier Port form a significant intermodel transportation system which is encouraged by ISTEA:
- The NAFTA is designed to open trade barriers between Canada, United States of America and Mexico. Increased trade will require improved highway access to all markets. The proposed highway between Arkansas and Shreveport is the last major link between Canada and the Gulf of Mexico area ports. The Caddo/Bossier Port and the construction of the North-South Expressway as a part of Corridor One, which ties in Shreveport to Kansas City, not only enhances international trade opportunities, but also creates an intermodel system encouraging interaction between multiple transportation systems.
- Dedication of Lock and Dam No. 5 on Red River in February ,1995, formally opened barge navigation from Gulf of Mexico ports to the Shreveport-Bossier area. The Caddo-Bossier Port has been active with an intensive marketing and construction program the past few years preparing for barge navigation. Recent announcements of location of major industries at the Port is indicative of the Port's ability to serve as a contributor to the economic base of the SMSA.

Additional area economic information and data is available from:

U.S. Department of Commerce, 1990 Census of Housing and PopulationShreveport Chamber of CommerceBossier Chamber of CommerceNorthwest Louisiana Council of Governments

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Northwest Louisiana Development Center LSU/S in Shreveport, Louisiana Louisiana Tech in Ruston, Louisiana Centenary College in Shreveport, Louisiana